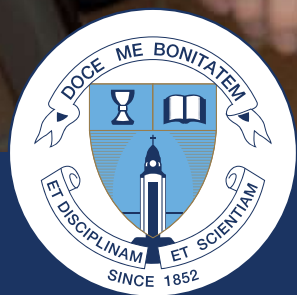


# BLUE BANNER

ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL



Volume 12 ~ Spring/Summer 2012

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A New Role
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- Part II
- 15 Dr. Anthony Tosoni '37



The St. Michael's College School Alumni Magazine, *Blue Banner*, is published two times per year. It reflects the history, accomplishments and stories of graduates and its purpose is to promote collegiality, respect and Christian values under the direction of the Basilian Fathers.

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## ON THE COVER:

Terence Sheridan '89 to assume dual role of President/Principal this summer.

## USEFUL WEBSITES

**St. Michael's College School:**

[www.stmichaelscollegeschool.com](http://www.stmichaelscollegeschool.com)

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# message from the president

Dear Alumni and Friends,

At St. Michael's we often encourage the boys to become St. Michael's Men even though the qualities that embody being a St. Michael's Man seem elusively vague and mysterious. This year the school had a very difficult experience when one of our Grade 11 students died of a brain tumour. However, that experience gave us a glimpse of how someone can be a St. Michael's Man at a very young age.

Robel Solomon came to us from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School. Growing up in the Jamestown project at Wellesley and Sherbourne, he did not have expectations of coming to St. Mike's until he found out through some friends that our assistance programmes might make that a realistic dream. When he started Grade 9 in September 2009 that dream came true.

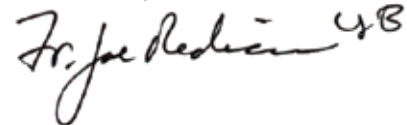
A few weeks later, Robel suffered a seizure while playing his favorite sport of soccer at a Homecoming match. Tests followed the seizure and while surgery reduced the size of the tumour that was discovered, it could not eliminate it. For two and a half years, as Robel dealt with recovery and chemotherapy, the one dream he clung to was going to St. Mike's.

Robel was here every day that he could be. While we tried to modify his programme, he insisted that he take difficult subjects and did his best to complete all assignments. Unable to participate in soccer, he took up archery and practiced with the senior basketball team. He was active at the school until his health took a very bad turn just before exams in December. While he recovered enough to enjoy a good Christmas with his friends and family, the disease progressed and he died in February.

I had the privilege of ministering to Robel and his family in those final months and weeks. He was incredibly committed to coming to school and doing his best even when the outlook was very grim. He never stopped trying despite increasing disability and he never lost hope even though he knew the likely outcome of his disease. He encouraged his friends in the community to stay in school and to make the most of their lives. He kept an optimistic outlook and a lively sense of humour even as the tumour robbed him more and more of his strength. He wanted and received the Sacraments, and while not happy about the prospect of dying, was unafraid.

Robel was a remarkable young man. He brought out the best in others. The Hospital for Sick Children was amazed at the support he received from his classmates and teachers. He was also supported constantly by his mother, brother and father, extended family, and Eritrean community. The outpouring of love at the wake and at the funeral from the Eritrean, Jamestown and St. Michael's communities was one of the most profoundly moving experiences in my life as a priest and educator.

Robel's short life had much meaning because he was determined with God's help to give it meaning. What a wonderful example of a St. Michael's Man.



Fr. Joe Redican, C.S.B.  
President, St. Michael's College School



# message from the alumni president



Welcome to the Spring/Summer Edition of the *Blue Banner* and my final message as President of the Alumni Association. This spring, we embarked on an election process to find new leadership for the Alumni Association. It is my intention to remain actively involved with the executive in my role as Past President, and I look forward to supporting a new president as we work together to advance the goals of our Association and those of the School we all cherish.

As the end of yet another successful school year is upon us, I bid heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2012 on their upcoming graduation. On behalf of the Alumni Association, we wish you the best as you begin your university career. We look forward to your many future successes and to one day sharing old stories or your ideas on how to make St. Michael's stronger.

The conclusion of the 2011-12 school year also brings about a significant change in the leadership of St. Michael's College School. Congratulations to Fr. Redican, C.S.B. on his retirement and thank you for all of the work you have done to ensure St. Michael's remains the leader in Catholic boys' education. It has been a pleasure working with you. The Alumni Executive thanks you for the support you have shown us through the years. I would also like to congratulate **Terry Sheridan '89** on his appointment as the School's first lay president. We look forward to working with you to support and advance the mission of the School.

I would like to draw your attention to the alumni reader survey results that are now available at [mybluebanner.com](http://mybluebanner.com). Your feedback will help this publication continue to grow and remain relevant to a broad spectrum of alumni. Thank you for participating in the survey.

On a closing note, I would like to thank all of the hard working alumni whom I have had the pleasure of working with over the years. We are a strong and vibrant group dedicated to the future of the school. I will be forever grateful and honoured to have had the opportunity to serve as your Alumni Association President.

Thank you.

Yours truly,



Josh Colle '92  
President, Alumni Association

# letter from the editor

As SMCS alumni we are able to take inspiration from the many great Men of St. Michael's who have graced the school's halls. Several such gentlemen are profiled in this issue, including [Terence Sheridan '89](#), [Dr. Anthony Tosoni '37](#) and [Robel Solomon '13](#).

We can all be thankful for the contributions these and other accomplished St. Michael's Men have provided to the institution that has made us the men we are today.

We are certainly thankful for the willingness of Terry Sheridan to take on the extra duties and responsibilities of serving as both President and Principal. We are also thankful, as their term comes to a close, for the time and resources committed by Alumni Association President Josh Colle and the rest of the Executive.

Here at the *Blue Banner*, we are particularly thankful for the almost 300 people who took the time and effort to respond to our annual survey. Among the most interesting facts gleaned from the survey results: more than 80 per cent of respondents read every issue of the *Blue Banner*, with almost 40 per cent reading it cover to cover; nearly 75 per cent of respondents would like to see more issues of the magazine and more than 70 per cent would like to see a dedicated online issue; perhaps most interestingly, a majority of respondents would be willing to include advertising in the *Blue Banner* to help offset production costs.

The survey was designed to glean information on how the alumni community would like to see the *Banner* grow – be it through larger editions, more editions, or an increased online presence. In order to fulfil our mission to engage the alumni community we need your submissions, but we also need space to put them. As if to drive that point home, we didn't actually have space to include the survey results in this issue. They have instead been posted online at [mybluebanner.com](#).

Although we couldn't fit the survey into the magazine, we have managed to cram it full of great stories about the St. Mike's community. Of course we would be remiss if we didn't do an in-depth profile of our new President – our interview with Terry Sheridan can be found beginning on page 9. Richard McQuade continues his fascinating 'untold history' of St. Mike's in the 1930s in 'From the Archives' (p.12). A new section, 'Men of St. Michael's', debuts with a story about one of our most interesting and accomplished grads, [Dr. Anthony Tosoni '37](#) (p. 15). And we cover the induction of three SMCS legends into the St. Mike's Basketball Hall of Fame (p. 22). Also included in this issue is a welcome to the Class of 2012 (p. 25), and articles about the Columbus Centre Concert Band (p. 18) and the annual Turkey Roll (p. 34).

If, after all of that, you are still looking for more, don't forget to check out the survey results at [mybluebanner.com](#) – where you can also read this and past editions of the magazine.

Happy Reading!



Gavin Davidson '93



IN THE LAST ISSUE OF THE BLUE BANNER,  
WE ASKED ALUMNI TO COMPLETE A SURVEY  
ON THEIR BLUE BANNER EXPERIENCE

*If the Blue Banner was to sell advertising, it should be sold to...*

*Which of the following best describes your Blue Banner reading habits?*

*An online edition of the Blue Banner would be most effective if published...*

*How many times per year should the Blue Banner be published?*

*The best way of covering costs associated with an online edition of the Blue Banner would be through...*

*The current layout and content of the Blue Banner is...*

*What is the grad year grouping that applies to you?*

*I read print editions of newspapers and magazines...*

*The current number of pages in the Blue Banner is...*

*On top of the content in the print edition, an online edition of the Blue Banner should include...*

*I would find an online edition of the Blue Banner to be a useful tool for alumni.*

VISIT [MYBLUEBANNER.COM](#) TO SEE THE RESULTS

## letters to the editor

Dear Gavin,  
I was surprised and pleased to see excerpts from my reminiscent article 'Memories of the 1930s and 1940s' in the latest issue of the *Blue Banner*. I wrote it in response to the notice in the 2011 Spring/Summer Edition asking for articles for the archives on the earlier days in the Bay Street School, but didn't expect that excerpts would appear in the *Blue Banner*. I have already received calls from other Old Boys who found it interesting. I have two corrections for you. I presume that by now some of your Basilian confreres will have told you that Archbishop McGuigan was not a Basilian as you implied by giving him the initials 'C.S.B.', but was automatically Chancellor of St. Michael's College because of his position as reigning Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto. The minor error is that my middle initial is 'R' not 'L' as you have indicated.

Thanks again for your surprise,  
[Vernon R. Mulhall '41](#)

*Ed's reply: I'm certainly glad the surprise was a pleasant one! Our apologies for the error with your name, Vernon, and sincere thanks for sharing your memories.*

Dear Gavin,  
The recent issue of the *Blue Banner* and the 'Cozy Barn' article brought back some fond memories of my summer employment at St. Mike's. In 1960, I was employed, along with some other students, to assist with the fitting out and finishing of the arena as described in the article. We were planing, cutting, varnishing and nailing the side boards all summer, working side by side with Fr. Sheehan, C.S.B., Fr. Smith, C.S.B., [Fr. Higgins, C.S.B. '45](#) and Hubert Vogt.

With best wishes, [Leslie Soltay '63](#)

*Ed's reply: Thanks for the letter Leslie. The arena certainly is a special place. I have many fond memories of my own time working there. I'm sure you have some great stories. Feel free to share them with us!*

Dear Editor,  
Congratulations on putting out such a wonderful alumni magazine. In your last edition, the Fall/Winter 2011, the feature on the arena, 'The Cozy Barn', was of particular interest. I particularly enjoyed the construction history, and the mention of my father, Hubert Vogt, as one of the driving



forces behind the arena construction. This Hubert Vogt is not to be confused with my older brother [Hubert Vogt '76](#) who was only a newborn at the time of construction. I also would like to point out the 'unknown' person referenced in the construction picture standing next to Fr. Paul Sheehan, C.S.B., is none other than the same Hubert Vogt, my dad. He is now retired from his career at St. Mike's, having put in 34 years from 1952 to 1986, including his final position as Managing Director. He has seen three of his sons ([Hubert '76](#), [Gregory '78](#), [George '79](#)) and one grandson ([Jonathan Lukas Goldnau-Vogt '11](#)) attend a school that he spent a career building.

Best regards,  
[Gregory M. Vogt '78](#)

*Ed's reply: Thanks for the letter Gregory. I think we need a follow up on the arena article as it is the source of so many great stories! At the very least, a piece on your father's contribution to the school is called for.*

Editor,  
Another fine edition of your very professional looking publication. However I feel compelled to point out your disastrous attempt to identify the people in the left picture on page 12. You scored 50% on this photo. From left to right after Fr. Sheehan, C.S.B. comes Hubert Vogt. The 4th person is most certainly not [Mike Lavelle '55](#) (a longtime friend and former teacher at SMC) and the final man is Fr. Neil Smith, C.S.B.. Surely if you do not know half of the people in a photograph you would consult any of hundreds of former teachers and/or students, like your former editor [Joe Younder '56](#), Dan Prendergast, [Paul Thomson '65](#) or even this humble scribe.

[Gerry Marlborough '59](#), former Science Department head and hockey coach 1965-1997.

*Ed's reply: I don't know Gerry, I remember more than one science test in which scoring 50% was considered far from 'disastrous'! Many thanks though for providing corrections on the picture. Rest assured you were not the only one!*

Dear Editor,  
Thanks for the latest issue of the Banner. I am an alumnus ('65) and really enjoyed the article on the old arena. As a kid at Holy Rosary I remember playing in Wells Hill Park with friends and stopping in our tracks as we stood open-mouthed and watched a huge flatbed truck carry the first of the enormous wooden arches for the arena roof. Later, of course, as a student at St. Mike's, I was a rink rat throughout the winter months.

Best Wishes,  
[Colin Brezicki '65](#)



(L-R) Fr. William Sheehan, C.S.B., Hubert Vogt, Fr. Ed Ronan, C.S.B., Armand Scaini '58, Fr. Brian Higgins, C.S.B. '45, Fr. Neil Smith, C.S.B. '46

*Ed's reply: Thanks, Colin - it truly is amazing how many people's lives have been touched by the arena.*

Dear Editor,  
The latest edition of the Blue Banner with pictures of Fr. Flanagan, C.S.B., [Fr. Higgins, C.S.B. '45](#), [Fr. Ronan, C.S.B. '41](#) and Fr. Egsgard, C.S.B., was a joy to read and certainly elicited further comment. As a Bay Streeter I really can't relate to the Bathurst Street school, but I can share the warmth and spirit of the many graduates and attendees. I watched Fr. Higgins play football and then had the pleasure of playing for him when he coached the interfaculty team in the mid-1950s. Travelling with my brother to Edmonton to watch [Fr. Bauer, C.S.B. '45](#) and the Majors win the Memorial Cup was another momentous occasion. I have had the opportunity to attend one or two Turkey Rolls when fellow Bay Streeter [George Cormack '49](#) was the 'headroller' and now that I am a returnee to Ontario I hope to visit the SMCS facility a few more times.

Thanks,  
[John Prendergast '48](#), Bracebridge, ON

*Ed's reply: We'd be happy to see you John. The bricks may be different, but the spirit definitely remains the same.*

*Ed's note: The picture caption wasn't the only thing we messed up in the 'Cozy Barn' article. It included a vivid description of police swarming the ice during a 1982 Buzzers playoff game, the details of which were provided by arena manager [Rob Tunney '81](#). My sincere apologies for neglecting to credit this, Rob.*

## a familiar face, a new role: an interview with our first lay president, terence sheridan, '89

**Q: Is being President of the school something you've always been interested in, something you've aspired to?**

A: I don't think the community believed this opportunity would present itself to the laity at this time. As such, I can honestly say I did not think the opportunity would become available during my time at the school.

**Q: How did your appointment as President come about? Please tell us a bit about the process.**

A: The usual process involves the Basilian Fathers meeting, identifying, and ratifying a new leader for St. Michael's. Unfortunately, the school community was informed that a suitable candidate could not be identified at this time and, hence, it was opened to the laity. At that point, as a member of the search committee I decided to excuse myself and pursue the opportunity. And from there, the search committee met and before going public decided unanimously to ask if I would assume the position for two years.

**Q: How did you celebrate your appointment?**

A: Well, the first person I called was obviously Laura, my wife. We both had some tears.

**Q: How does your family feel about the increased workload?**

A: Before putting my name forward, we as a family sat down and discussed the exciting opportunity, the responsibilities that went along with it, and the extra work required. In recognition of the extra work load, I will not teach for the first time in seven years. I ultimately believe the workload will be manageable because the administrative team, faculty and staff are wholeheartedly committed to advancing the mission of the school.

**Q: Do you see yourself sharing some of your Principal duties with the Vice Principals or other duties with other staff members here?**

A: I've always worked under the premise of a team-approach to decision making and implementing initiatives.

**Q: You mentioned briefly there that you won't be teaching next year. Are you concerned that you may lose some contact with the students or may not have as much time to dedicate to the students?**

A: Because this is at the forefront of my mind, I will ensure that it doesn't happen. As an educator, interacting with the young men of St. Mike's is necessary to understand the heart and soul of our school.

**Q: There's a whole other business side to the role of President. What assets do you feel you bring to that area?**

A: I believe my strengths are focused on building a team, effective communication, listening rather than just hearing, and capitalizing on the strengths of those in leadership positions. Ultimately, it is my hope that by focusing the team on a common vision, excellence for the St. Michael's College School community will continue.







**Q:** In doing that, what do you think will be your biggest challenge as President?

**A:** For the longest time, St. Michael's has relied on the generous support of the Basilian Fathers, however, the challenge will be to inspire the internal and external community to more fully give of their time, talents, and financial resources. There are several constituents who have stepped forward and we thank them. There is a significant need for more members of our school's community to contribute in order to bring to fruition the mission of St. Mike's.

**Q:** Independent schools are very competitive environments these days, so fundraising becomes one of the biggest challenges. Though you haven't started yet, what plans do you have in mind in respect to fundraising?

**A:** Building relationships with our alumni, parents and friends has to be a focus for St. Mike's. By building these relationships we hope to provide people with an opportunity to give back to the school. We must realize that as a charitable institution, the future of our school rests solely on the philanthropy of its members. We are called to participate in that fundraising. Presently, there are a number of initiatives on the go that I plan to support and bring to fruition.

**Q:** Times of change are not just about moving forward, but also a time of reflection. What has been your biggest success so far in your role as Principal?

**A:** There are two things that come to mind. The first one is building the commitment and energy of the wonderful faculty and staff and supporting them in their development. Secondly, is investing time and energy into improving pedagogy at St. Mike's via technology.

**Q:** Do you feel extra pressure, not just being President, but being the first lay person to be President?

**A:** Yes, I understand and accept the pressure associated with this opportunity, but I have always believed that how one responds to the pressure says much about the character of the individual. In terms of the tasks that are ahead, I am confident with the team here at St. Mike's that as a community we will adjust where needed to continue the great things that we do.

**Q:** What kind of reception and feedback have you had from the St. Mike's community since your appointment was announced?

**A:** I have been very humbled by the support of the community at large. The response from faculty, staff, students, and alumni has been overwhelmingly positive. Further, I am grateful for support extended by the Basilian Fathers locally and abroad. I am very thankful for the support as I take on the President's portfolio in July.

**Q:** Can we expand on the reaction from the students? Obviously, not just as principal, but as a teacher you've developed close relationships with some of them. Are they going to look at you differently now? What's the feeling you get from them?

**A:** There may be a name change to The Prez, which some of them have called me. Terry Sheridan is the same guy as he was when he started as a teacher. The relationships that I've built whether it's been through hockey as a coach, teacher, or principal are the same. Those relationships don't change if you are A or B.

**Q:** I think the vast majority of alumni and others would agree that the school's been doing really well lately and it's being left to you in a good condition. Are there any changes you would immediately like to make?

**A:** One of the things I learned early in leadership is that, when assuming a new position, the best thing for me to do is to take a deep breath and observe for a little while, so as to understand what's going on and to get my feet under me. In so doing, I will have an informed perspective of what needs to be done and when. It will be important to keep in mind that the changes we make must ensure that our academic programme remains our top priority.

**Q:** What is the one message you would like to give to the St. Mike's community as we go through this transition?

**A:** St. Mike's is first and foremost a Basilian Catholic school and will continue to be so. We will have Basilians active in the building and, as we continue to move forward, the laity in the community will continue to take on a greater role. Whether it be alumni, parents, faculty, or staff, it is no longer a need, it is a must. In essence, it is a call for all of us to be an active part of the future of the school through fundraising or volunteerism.

**Q:** Any specific message for the alumni? How do you feel alumni can best be of service to St. Mike's?



**A:** I know having sat in on the last Alumni Executive meeting, I recognize the alumni are looking for opportunities to get involved whether it be through fundraising or volunteerism. Beyond this, it is my hope that the alumni will visit with our students and continue to share their insights on the life-long benefits of a St. Michael's education.

**Q:** Fast forward two years — you've been given the choice to stay on as President or Principal, which do you choose?

**A:** I think we'll let the next two years unfold and then we'll see. I feel blessed to have this opportunity, to be trusted by the Basilian Fathers and by the St. Mike's community to continue the legacy the Basilian Fathers have created. Hopefully, in two years a Basilian will be deemed ready. If not, we will move forward based on the best interests of our school and its community.





# from the archives: our untold history part II

Richard McQuade, Director of Archives

The previous *Blue Banner* included the histories of the College Annex and the West End College. This account is based on an interview from 2011 with [Fr. Frank Voorwerk, C.S.B. '38](#), which is now preserved in the archives. Fr. Frank, now 93 and a retired diocesan priest, is an alumnus of the West End College.

Upon graduating from St. James Elementary School in June 1932, Frank Voorwerk was unsure of what to do. He told his pastor, Fr. William Heydon, that he was interested in the priesthood, so Fr. Heydon suggested the new school. Fr. Vince Thompson, C.S.B., a Basilian recruiting for the new school, also visited Frank at his Durie St. home in The Junction. The Voorwerks could not afford the \$40/year tuition, but like other pastors Fr. Heydon found an unnamed sponsor, so Frank became a member of that first class in September 1932.

Two other St. James' boys joined Frank there and also became priests; [Ted Madigan '37](#) became a diocesan priest and [Clair Johnson '37](#) a Redemptonist missionary. [Joe O'Reilly '36](#) from St. Helen's became a Basilian, while [Pat Malone '36](#) and [John Lepinsky '36](#), (both from St. Cecilia's) and [Bill Breen '40](#), from St. Vincent de Paul, also became diocesan priests. That first class of 37 boys produced seven priests.



Travel time and costs discouraged many from attending downtown, but at the new school students could travel by bike or walk while the priests came by streetcar. Students brought their own lunches. The school day went from 9:00 a.m. until noon, re-started at 1:30 p.m. and ended at 4:00 p.m. The West End College (and likely the Annex) had five weekdays of instruction, but downtown had half day morning classes Wednesdays and Saturdays because it had boarders. All three schools competed at Clover Hill on Wednesday afternoons. The West End Principal, [Fr. Mallon, C.S.B. '26](#), taught French and Latin in the morning. Deacon, later Father, Lee Higgins, C.S.B. taught Algebra and Geometry in the afternoon. Only these four subjects were taught that year.

Fr. Frank remembers high school as being much different from elementary school. "My first lesson in discipline at St. Mike's was the first day I was there," he recalls.

"[Gordy Delemere '37](#) sat in front of Mr. Higgins' desk. Mr. Higgins, a stern disciplinarian, made things clear that first day. He told the boys, 'I'm in charge here. You'll call me sir and... you'll pay attention to what I say.' While everybody worked, Gordy kept talking to another student, so finally Mr. Higgins went up to Gordy and whacked him right across the side of his face. He could have knocked his teeth out or broken his jaw! He said, 'Listen bud, I told you to shut up!' and then sat down and didn't say anything else. I pretty near quit school that day! When I went home that day I wasn't sure if I wanted to go back!" Mr. Higgins was a big Texan who called most students 'Bud' because he never remembered their names.

About two weeks later, Fr. Mallon was introducing a new boy to the class and said, "in about two minutes a big guy and a little guy will come walking in, they always come late." As he spoke, in walked Joe O'Reilly and [Tom Riley '37](#) from St. Helen's, who were perpetually tardy. It is unknown how Joe O'Reilly, the big one, handled late students after he became a Basilian and Latin teacher. Another time, [Vin Kehoe '37](#) brought a heavy stick about 18-24 inches long by about two inches thick and gave it to Fr. Mallon commenting, "This is in case you need something for discipline, you can bang on the table." Later, after he misbehaved, Vin received the stick across his own back-side, courtesy of Fr. Mallon! It is the only time Fr. Frank recalls Fr. Mallon ever using corporal punishment.

By November Fr. Mallon was re-assigned downtown and Mr. Higgins assumed all teaching. Mr. Higgins, more football player than teacher, now taught French although he did not know it. Two exceptional students, John Lepinsky and [Alphonse Malone '37](#) (called 'Joe Einstein' by Mr. Higgins) seemed to know more than their teachers.

The schoolyard was the house's long, narrow backyard, roughly the length of two bowling alleys end-to-end and three alleys wide. Recreation was often horseshoes or 'duck on a rock'. During one game, Fr. Frank's finger was split open while he was replacing his 'duck' rock on the larger rock. He needed stitches so he was sent home on his bike, bleeding all the way. He still has the scar. For football, Mr. Higgins took the boys across the street to the Canada Bread factory property, which included a field of two to three acres.

After Christmas, Fr. Martin, C.S.B. came to cover Fr. Mallon's courses. He arrived from Detroit, where he was so well-known and well-loved, that, as Fr. Frank says, he could have become mayor. He was nicknamed 'Mr. Baseball', and often walked the boys to High Park for baseball. Next year, when he was re-assigned and left the school, their Grade 10 teacher encouraged the boys to write articles for a special book they presented to him.

The only inter-campus sport was football, played at Clover Hill. School hockey games were usually played at Little Vic and Varsity arenas. Frank played on the championship Bantam team and although he only played once, still received a medal. He enjoyed hockey and was one of the tallest players, but his marks were weak so Fr. Heydon, who saw his report cards, insisted he drop the game. [Joe Corbally '37](#), another member of the Bantam squad, was the only student who for unknown reasons bleached his hair. Other athletes were [Harry O'Donnell '37](#) who was good at hardball and [Jim McCann '37](#), a good horseshoe player.

Fr. Bellisle, C.S.B., "a very pleasant, friendly type of guy, not the taskmaster," visited twice that year. In spring, students were surveyed about continuing at the school to Grade 10. Enough students answered positively, so the school moved into its second year with the same tuition.

In September 1933, Fr. Wilfred Dore, C.S.B. replaced Fr. Mallon as principal. Students feared Fr. Dore's visits. During these he openly berated students like [Dick Schwalm '38](#) because his marks were not as good as those of his brother, who had graduated from the College School to the University. New staff to the West End included Fr. Basil Regan, C.S.B. ("a good teacher") who taught Latin and French and Mr. Grant who taught Canadian History. [Fr. French, C.S.B. '26](#) taught Physics, Geometry and Algebra in the afternoon. Upon arriving daily to class Fr. French would pick up the chalk box from the desk and wipe the desk with his handkerchief. Mice were plentiful in the room because the students ate lunch there; so one day two were caught and placed in the box. Fr. French lifted it and the mice dropped out, scattering across the desk. Disappointingly, Fr. French displayed no reaction and began his lesson as always.



September brought more new students who later became priests. [Peter Rosettis '36](#), new to Grade 10, a good student and athlete, later played football for St. Mike's and eventually became pastor of Fr. Frank's old parish, St. James. The new Grade 9 students included [Robert Clune '38](#), later the Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto, and [Bill O'Brien '38](#), who became a Monsignor.

Only one boy had a job. [Tom 'Fish' Murray '37](#) delivered fish and chips by bike. Each Friday around 11:30 'Fish' left school and returned late in the afternoon. He used the lane beside the school and the boys, now on the second floor in Grade 10, would fill a bag with water from one of the radiators and 'bomb' him when he passed. On one occasion they succeeded. Murray, "lost control of his bike and almost got killed!" He was more careful after that.

The three campus football teams clashed again downtown in 1933 with the West End emerging as champions. Basilian Fathers, Forner, Kelly, Dore, Haffey and McCorkell and other young Basilian priests and scholastics, "great big guys, football players," visited from downtown. They were strict, "you did what you were told... we worshipped these guys... St. Mike's was responsible for a lot of vocations to the priesthood... they were great men... like gods to us," and left lasting impressions.

Religious life was especially important during Holy Week, when classes were suspended for retreats. Daily Mass next door at St. Joan's was followed by prayers and lectures by visiting priests. In June 1934, Canada's first Cardinal, Cardinal Villeneuve, visited Toronto for the first time. The West End students practiced for several days in their narrow schoolyard as part of the St. Mike's Honour Guard, which formed part of the Cardinal's parade from Union Station to Clover Hill.

In September 1934, Frank Voorwerk and about half of his class started the long trek to Grade 11 at Clover Hill. Within a few years, the College Annex and the West End College disappeared.



THE ABSENTEES.

FRONT—P. McCann, V-A; J. McTague, I-A; J. McCarthy, V-B; R. Troke, V-B.  
 SECOND ROW—B. Murphy, V-B; F. Voorwerk, IV-A; J. Dowling, V-B; L. Doherty, V-B; G. Thomas V-B.  
 THIRD ROW—V. Kehoe, IV-A; E. Meunier, II-A; P. Fox, V-A; J. J. Knowlton, V-B.

# men of st. michael's: dr. anthony tosoni '37

Surely just about every Canadian has heard of the revered Sir Frederick Grant Banting, the world famous Canadian medical scientist, doctor, Nobel laureate and University of Toronto graduate credited as being one of the main discover-ers of insulin. But how many have heard of fellow University of Toronto (and St. Michael's College School) graduate [Dr. Anthony "Nino" Tosoni '37](#), the man credited with saving millions of lives by inventing penicillin in pill form?

Probably not nearly as many, but [Armand Scaini '58](#) feels it is time for that to change. Scaini remembers Dr. Tosoni not only as an incredibly smart and talented person, but as an extremely down to earth, friendly and approachable individual. Even while collecting global accolades and piling up patents, Dr. Tosoni always sought to help others and insisted upon being called 'Nino'. "Back in Italy," Scaini recalls, "the doctors would not even look at you if you did not address them reverentially as Doctor – even the ones that weren't really doctors!"

Nino was about as far from a pseudo-doctor as you can get. His doctoral research while at the U of T led him, together with his mentor, Dr. Peter Maloney, to develop a method of crystallizing penicillin - a procedure that was accepted and copied throughout the world. This breakthrough made penicillin signifi-cantly easier to produce and conserve – making it accessible and available to a much wider audience, undoubtedly saving countless lives in the process. But, as Armand is quick to point out, if not for the generosity of the Basilian Fathers and other benefactors, those lives might not have been saved. Nino might never have become Dr. Tosoni.



Born in Italy in 1920, Antonio Tosoni came from Castelnovo del Friuli, a town situated in the mountains north of Spilimbergo west of the Tagliamento River. After beginning his schooling in Italy, Tosoni emigrated with his family to Canada, eventually landing in the west end of Toronto. Once Nino finished elementary school, his father wanted him to find employment – to help them survive the tough times brought on by the Depression. How-ever, the nun who was his principal at St. Cecilia's would hear of no such thing. "He's going to St. Michael's" was the instruction she provided to Nino's father, leaving him to wonder who was going to pay the tuition.



(L-R) Tony DeCialis, Guido Rapone, Fr. Fitzpatrick, Marie Tosoni, SK Noel Perovic and Tosoni children and grandchildren

\$100 per year scholarship for university from the Knights of Columbus in the process. "If it wasn't for the kindness of the Basilians," says Scaini, "Nino would have been in construction like all the other Italian guys."



Nino immediately enrolled at the University of Toronto, choosing to attend St. Michael's College. His first preference was to study languages, but, as a sign of the times, he feared that as a Catholic and Italian he would be hard pressed to succeed in the teaching profession to which those studies were sure to ultimately lead. Instead, Tosoni devoted himself to the study of the sciences - luckily, one might say with the benefit of hindsight. He received his B.A. in Biochemistry in 1942, and continued with post graduate work in the same field. In 1944, he completed his M.A., earning his Ph.D. in Chemistry three years later.

It is worth noting that Tosoni was one of only eight recipients of a doctoral degree across all faculties at the University of Toronto at the November 1947 convocation ceremony. Anecdotal evidence also suggests that Nino was not only the first Friulian, but the first Italian from the Toronto community to receive a doctorate from the University of Toronto. All this he managed to do while working a variety of summer jobs - including selling magazines and apprenticing for a tile-setter - and serving as the President of the Famèe Furlane in 1941-42.

Leading an Italian cultural organization while Canada was at war with Italy may not have been the smartest move, but it was certainly brave. Not only were Italians required to sign in with local police every two weeks during this period, leaders in the Italian community were routinely detained in prison camps, notably at Petawawa. "So the leaders of the Famèe Furlane all quit so they would not get arrested," relates Scaini. But not Nino.



(L-R) Joan Scaini, Fr. Fitzpatrick, C.S.B. and Armand Scaini standing outside of the St. Michael Chapel at Villa Leonardo Gabin at the Friuli Centre

He was also studying to be an officer in the Canadian Army. Each time he had to sign in at the local police station he would show up in his army uniform - which forced the policemen to stand at attention and salute. In fact, laughs Scaini, Nino managed to make things so uncomfortable at the station that he soon received a letter telling him he was not required to check in anymore. "Nino wasn't afraid," says Scaini, "and he always encouraged young people never to be afraid."

A true man of St. Michael's, Tosoni never hesitated to give back to the communities that had supported him, from fellow Italian immigrants to students following in his footsteps at the U of T. As

President of the Famèe Furlane he worked hard to dispel any suspicions the Canadian Government had about the organization during the critical early days of the Second World War. From 1942-44, while pursuing his graduate studies, Tosoni volunteered as a demonstrator - providing laboratory instructions to engineering students. After completing his groundbreaking doctoral thesis in 1947 he taught Chemistry at the U of T's School of Hygiene until 1956. Prior to that, Tosoni had made a significant contribution to the war effort of his adopted country, supervising the production of antitoxins at Connaught Medical Research in 1944.

Tosoni's relationship with Connaught Laboratories lasted almost 40 years. He retired from the firm in 1982, after serving as Assistant Director. By that point, he had a large number of publications and patents to his credit. "Look at this," says Armand as he flips through the impressive list of Dr. Tosoni's patents in Canada and U.S.A. and published research. "For a guy from Friuli to achieve all this, at that time..."

His voice trails off as he comes to a compilation of testimonials, including one from the U of T, which on the occasion of its 150th anniversary recognized "with gratitude the long and distinguished service" provided by Nino. His former employers at Connaught noted that "few scientists have (made) a significant impact on such widely dispersed areas as has been enjoyed by Dr. Tosoni", before also commenting on his "quiet, unassuming personality."

In recognition of Dr. Tosoni's significant contribution to Canada's cumulative body of scientific knowledge, he was made a Fellow in the Canadian Institute of Chemistry. Nino was also fêted in the pages of *The Telegram* (1964) and *Canadian Mosaic* (1975) among other publications. Following his premature death from cancer in 1985, touching reflections were published in *Il Messaggero Veneto* and the *Toronto Star*.

Still emotional about Nino's passing, Armand remembers Nino calling one day and asking him to come help plan his funeral. "I wouldn't go," says Armand. "I tried to talk him out of it."

"I'm a doctor in chemistry," Nino told him. "I know I'm going to die soon."

A devout Catholic who courageously faced his imminent death, Dr. Tosoni had always been exceedingly modest about his achievements. But he was revered and respected by all who met him, particularly by the second generation of Friulian Canadians, who looked up to him as a role model. Always proud of his Friulian heritage, he inspired many who followed him to Canada to pursue higher education, something he would surely count among his greatest achievements - if he had been prone to even the slightest hint of immodesty.



(L-R) Guido Rapone, Fr. Fitzpatrick, Marie Tosoni, Armand Scaini, SK Noel Perovic, Tony DeCialis

Nobody would have blamed him for bragging. His story is undoubtedly amongst the most inspirational of the many accomplished graduates of St. Michael's and his life should continue to inspire all those who pass through the school's hallowed halls for generations to come.

Article was written with the permission and assistance of Angelo Principe, Olga Zorzi Pugliese and Armand Scaini '58

Dr. Anthony (Nino) Tosoni was posthumously honoured by the Friuli Benevolent Corporation in Woodbridge at a ceremony held June 4, 2011, at Friuli Terrace (60 Friuli Court). The Friuli Terrace Conservatory was dedicated in Dr. Tosoni's name and a bronze plaque was inaugurated in his honour in recognition of both his scientific accomplishments and his substantial contribution to the Friuli-Canadian community.

Elected President of the Famèe Furlane in 1941 at the age of 21, Dr. Tosoni was, and remains, the youngest ever President of the organization. Always proud of his heritage, he visited Friuli on many occasions, often accompanied by Marie, his Canadian-born wife, and his seven children. He celebrated important family events at the restaurant of the Famèe Furlane and continued until his passing to use his native language, even instructing that part of his funeral mass be conducted in Friulian.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Nino's dear friend, [Armand Scaini '55](#) (who also conducted the Friulian reading at his funeral), the celebration was organized and held in the presence of Marie, five of Tosoni's children and numerous grandchildren. Also attending the event were Fr. Fitzpatrick, C.S.B. of St. Michael's and a full contingent from the Knights of Columbus.



# marching to the st. mike's beat

Livio Leonardelli '56 has long felt a passion for music, first gained while learning to play the trumpet under the direction of legendary St. Mike's band leader John Guerriere '47. The lessons imparted, and stories told, by Guerriere inspired Livio to pursue a career in music – a career that has lasted sixty years, survived two 'retirements' (in 2001 and 2009) and recently entered a new and exciting chapter.

In 2010, Leonardelli accepted a request from Anthony Fusco Sr. '50, founder of the Columbus Centre, to form and conduct the Columbus Centre Concert Band. Except for one professional, the band is comprised of amateurs musicians - male and female - from all walks of life, including students, teachers, accountants, computer analysts and programmers, a chef, a social worker, and a dentist. With extensive and proven teaching expertise, credentials from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and experience in a wide variety of aspects of the music industry - including previous employment with the prestigious Music Corporation of America (MCA) - Leonardelli was both a safe and inspired choice to lead the ambitious project.

Livio's career teaching music began in earnest in 1967 with a ten-year stay as Head of the Music Department at Lakeview Secondary School. After transferring to the Metropolitan Separate School Board, he resumed teaching at Chaminade College School. Receiving high accolades and many gold awards while touring his student bands across the U.S. and throughout Europe, Livio quickly became known as Maestro Leonardelli, a title he wears proudly today.

Feeling fulfilled and riding the final waves of an incredible career, the Maestro retired in January 2001. Just eight months later, Leonardelli accepted an offer to start the music programme at Villanova College. After leading the Villanova band to gold in a variety of competitions, he retired again in 2009 - a retirement that lasted only until the Columbus Centre came calling a year later.

Under the direction of Maestro Leonardelli, and thanks to the recruitment efforts of band coordinator Fred Cassano, the Columbus Centre Band has quickly grown into an accomplished 38-piece ensemble. Although the group already has five successful concerts under their belts, the Maestro refuses to rest on his laurels. His next goal? Growing the band to more than 50 members – strengthening all sections in the process, while paying particular attention to increasing the ranks of the low brass, low woodwinds, and percussion.



## INVITING BRASS, WOODWIND AND PERCUSSION MUSICIANS TO JOIN

THE COLUMBUS CENTRE CONCERT BAND IS A NEWLY FORMED COMMUNITY BASED WIND ENSEMBLE CONDUCTED BY LIVIO LEONARDELLI. MEMBERS RANGE FROM AMATEURS TO MUSIC GRADUATES AND ARE FROM DIVERSE AGES AND BACKGROUNDS.

REHEARSALS:  
Tuesday 7:30-9:30pm  
Columbus Centre, RM C304  
901 Lawrence Ave W  
(at Dufferin) Toronto, Ontario

INQUIRIES:  
Daniela Agostino-Cugini  
manager cultural arts department  
dagostino@villacharities.com  
416.789.7011 ext. 250

Fred Cassano  
band coordinator and manager  
fredcassano@rogers.com  
416.828.3733



# former teachers enjoying retirement

## IAN THOMPSON '64

Since retiring in June 2011, Ian Thompson '64 has gone on the first of what he hopes will be many cruises with his wife Jasmine, is building a cottage at Wasaga Beach and spends time with his children Alex, Derek and Evita.



His retirement marked the end of the latest phase of his 40-plus year relationship with St. Michael's, during which he saw many changes. Ian graduated from St. Michael's College School and went on to earn his Honours Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education from the University of Toronto.

He returned to SMCS in 1975 and taught science and math for more than 36 years. Ian described SMCS students as highly motivated, responding well to academic challenges and with an incredible attitude towards learning. He sympathized with his students' tough course load, but still maintained high expectations remembering his own experience with difficult Ontario departmental exams. "The remarkable thing about teaching from year to year and class to class, is the appearance of so many personalities, fresh ideas and challenges. This keeps you sharp and especially young at heart," said Ian.

St. Mike's benefitted from Ian's artistic side as well. As moderator of the photo-video club, he oversaw significant changes in the technology of imaging, starting with slide presentations in the 70's, to using modern digital technology most recently. Ian was also responsible for sound production and vocal coaching in the dramatic productions over a period of 25 years.

Despite the many changes over the years, some things remain the same. The students have always shown pride in being a part of St. Mike's. "You can see it on their faces and those of their parents. The faculty who teach them possess a dedication which is highly commendable," said Ian. This spirit of pride and excellence has made Ian's career at St. Michael's one to be fondly remembered in his retirement years.



## PETER MCCANN '72

In June 2011, St. Michael's bid farewell to Peter McCann '72, a dedicated theology and philosophy teacher and coach of 22 years.

Peter first stepped foot in the yellow brick building in 1967. As a student he was inspired by Fr. Fitzpatrick, C.S.B., Fr. Kelly, C.S.B. '40 and his hockey coach, Fr. Flanagan, C.S.B. '32, who he described as excellent teachers, wonderful priests and great men.

After completing Grade 12, Peter went to Boston University where he played hockey and studied Philosophy. He earned his Bachelor of Arts from York University and his Bachelor of Education and Masters of Divinity from the University of Toronto.

After graduating, Peter played and coached for the Les Houches hockey club in France. He taught at Cardinal Leger Catholic High School in Brampton, the Red Earth Reservation in Saskatchewan and St. Robert Catholic High School in Thornhill.

In 1989, Peter returned to St. Mike's as a teacher and was impressed with the calibre of students, who were respectful, intelligent and humorous, and I formed enduring friendships with some that have lasted to this day," said Peter.

Peter knew the value of athletics at St. Michael's, saying that he learned from the Basilians that "sport was simply a vehicle to teach kids about life." He taught students outside the classroom by coaching hockey, softball, badminton and golf.

These days, Peter and his wife Patricia live in Thornhill and remain busy with activities in the GTA. Peter continues to be involved with his parish, Blessed Trinity at Bayview and Finch, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He keeps in touch with a number of former colleagues and present staff members.



# order celebrates new members

## CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE 2012 INDUCTEES TO THE ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL

On Thursday, April 26, St. Michael's College School proudly welcomed six new inductees into the Order of St. Michael. The wonderful event merits a special thank you to the event sponsors and approximately 450 guests were in attendance at the Liberty Grand for the induction ceremony. Established in 1995, the Order of St. Michael is the highest honour that St. Michael's can bestow on a member of its community. It is conferred on a man or woman who has illustrated love and admiration for St. Michael's; whose life is exemplary and a model for students; who has made a significant contribution to the spiritual, academic or material welfare of the school, and who is distinguished in service to neighbour and respectful of religion.

### GENE CUCCIA '52

Gene is an exemplary alumnus who takes it upon himself to keep alumni connected. He has taken on a leadership role in the community, personally planning and hosting several alumni reunions for graduates from the 1950s and early-60s. He is a modest and compassionate individual who quietly goes about promoting the values of St. Michael's in a subtle but highly effective manner. As a quiet leader within the alumni community, Gene has spent the last 17 years running his own alumni golf tournament for fellow classmates. As a testament to his character, Gene consistently makes a point to visit and support fellow alumni who are afflicted by sickness. As one alumnus sums it up, "Gene has not only shown such wonderful care for others, but has also brought others together, and relationships have expanded far and wide." Gene and June, his wife of 56 years, along with his son Eugene, own and operate June's Flower Shop. He also has two daughters, Kim and Joanne.

### CARLO DE PELLEGRIN '66

After graduating from St. Michael's, Carlo attended the University of St. Michael's College. He is currently a senior partner with Williams and Partners Chartered Accountants LLP. Carlo has been an active volunteer with the school since graduation, including helping to resurrect the St. Michael's Majors in 1997 and volunteering for the Building Fund Campaign Committee, Gift Planning Committee, and Building on Strong Foundations Committee. He has worked and continues to work in various Catholic charities as Past Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Board of Governors of St. Jerome's University and a member of the Executive Committee of its Board. Carlo also served as President and Treasurer of the Toronto Chapter of Legatus. He is currently Co-Chair of the Capital Campaign and Vice Chair of the Finance Council of Our Lady Queen of the World parish in Richmond Hill, a member of the Investment Advisory Committee of the Basilian Fathers of Toronto and a Governor of Catholic Missions in Canada. From 1994-2005, Carlo was a director of a TSX listed company, and continues to serve on several private companies in that capacity. Carlo and Sonia, his wife of 42 years, are parents to Tania, [Michael '94](#) and Christine. Carlo is also a proud Nonno to Ava, Alessandro, Ella, Siena, Arabella, Mia and Trinity.

### JIM GREGORY '55

Jim served as assistant manager and assistant coach, alongside [Fr. David Bauer, C.S.B. '45](#), for the 1960-61 Memorial Cup Champion St. Michael's Majors. Following his time in junior hockey, Jim became a scout with the Toronto Maple Leafs. In 1969, he was promoted to General Manager of the Leafs and served in this capacity for the next ten years. He is recognized as one of the first National Hockey League managers to identify Europe as a talent pool and in 1979 became the NHL's Director of Central Scouting. In 1986, Jim was named NHL Vice President and Executive Director of Hockey Operations. He continues to serve the NHL today as Senior Vice President of Hockey Operations. In 2005, Gregory was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame. Jim has and continues to be a loyal supporter of all things St. Michael. He has been happily married for 53 years to Rosalie and they have four children, Andréa, David, Valerie and Maureen, along with 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Ever committed to family, Jim spends quality time with brothers, Gary and Pat, and sisters, Rosemary and Sharon.

### FR. NEIL HIBBERD, C.S.B. '58

After graduating from St. Michael's, Fr. Hibberd worked at the school from 1963-66, 1969-79 and in 1981. A teacher of Religion, Latin, and English, Fr. Hibberd also coached a wide variety of sports and developed the school's outstanding cross country programme. He served as Chair of the SMCS Board of Directors from 2003-07, and as Chair Emeritus of the Foundation Board. Fr. Hibberd also taught and coached at St. Charles College in Sudbury and offered retreats, workshops and seminars at its Catholic Spiritual Centre. He served as a Counsellor, Chaplain and Board Member at Assumption University in Windsor, Ontario. Fr. Hibberd understood that Catholic education in the Basilian tradition should be exercised through academic and moral excellence. He inculcated these standards in fostering the education of the whole person as well rounded individuals willing and ready to serve Christ and others with good humour. Fr. Hibberd, now retired, spends his time in Sunday ministry while nurturing his extended friendships with Basilian confreres, former students, and connecting with his family including many nieces and nephews.

### FR. BRIAN HIGGINS, C.S.B. '45

As a student of Theology and a Scholastic, Fr. Higgins taught at St. Michael's College School, one of the best experiences for him and the students. After priestly ordination in 1954, he became a full-time member of the St. Michael's faculty. Fr. Higgins was a well-rounded student athlete, the passionate qualities of which he carried with him as an educator, teaching Religion, Physics and Mathematics. He mentored many young men in the classroom and in coaching football and hockey. He was Director of Athletics and Chaplain for the St. Michael's Majors in the team's first year back in the Ontario Hockey League. In addition to his service to St. Michael's, Fr. Higgins, as Principal of the Basilian schools in Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury and Windsor, brought his devotion to the St. Michael's motto, 'Teach Me Goodness, Discipline and Knowledge'. Fr. Higgins is living at Anglin House, the Basilian residence, and keeps in touch with his many nieces and nephews, administering to their temporal and sacramental welfare.

### FRANK LAMIE '98

Frank Lamie has already established a reputation as a solid citizen and tremendous ambassador for St. Michael's College School. After completing his Honours Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws at the University of Western Ontario, Frank joined the international law firm Gowling Lafleur Henderon LLP, where he currently practices law as an associate in its Financial Services Department. Frank is a committed volunteer within the St. Michael's community, serving as a member of the Young Alumni Golf Tournament Committee and coordinating the SMCS Appellate Advocacy Law Competition. He serves as a Captain in the Canadian Forces as a Reserve Infantry Officer with the 48th Highlanders of Canada. Frank was deployed on operations in Kandahar, Afghanistan with the Canadian Army from April to October 2011. Frank was also the keynote speaker at the 2011 St. Michael's Remembrance Day ceremony. In the spirit of community service, Frank serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Toronto Children's Breakfast Club, a charitable organization which runs breakfast programs for school-aged children in disadvantaged communities throughout the Greater Toronto Area. Frank is married to Andria, the sister of St. Mike's grad [Stefan Bulfon '00](#). Andria and Frank welcomed their first child, Siena, in April.



## smcs basketball hall of fame inductions



For a 'hockey school' St. Michael's certainly has quite the basketball history – a history that was on full display on Tuesday, January 10, as three new members were inducted into the St. Michael's Basketball Hall of Fame. A ceremony was held that afternoon before the Blue Raiders' opening game in the annual St. Michael's Invitational Basketball Tournament to honour the three new inductees: [Paul Dignan '59](#), [George Rautins '71](#), and [Rob Stewart '72](#).

According to legendary St. Mike's basketball coach, and fellow Hall of Fame member, Dan Prendergast, all three were well-deserving of the honour. "George and Rob were great kids to coach. They really loved the game, always worked hard, and were never a minute's problem," said Coach P. "One of the reasons they were such strong players was due to the opportunity to play for, and learn the fundamentals of the game from, Paul Dignan."

Paul Dignan's story at St. Michael's began when he enrolled in Grade 9 in 1954. He played five years of high school ball, leading the Blue Raiders through a very successful period and finishing as team captain in his graduating year. After continuing his stellar career as a member of the University of Toronto Blues, Dignan decided to return to his old high school as a teacher. How fortunate that was for St. Michael's, as Paul embarked on a fabulous coaching career that began in 1964 and lasted 27 years. Coaching mainly at the Bantam and Freshman levels, he led numerous teams to TDCAA championships.

Dignan-led teams were known for being fired up with enthusiasm and imbued with the will to win – much like the man himself. They played hard – but always with fairness, integrity and sportsmanship. It is a sign of the value Dignan held for St. Mike's that he was standing on the Paul Dignan Court as he was inducted into the Hall of Fame. "I think the Basketball Hall of Fame is a terrific idea and it is nice to be a part of it," said Dignan. "So many people contributed to making Blue Raiders basketball a success and it is great to see it continue to thrive."

One of the biggest contributions to the success of the programme came from George Rautins, the first of the Rautins boys to play for St. Michael's. Arriving at the school in 1967, Rautins ushered in arguably the most successful period in



Blue Raiders history. He led the team to four league championships, multiple tournament victories and several OFSAA appearances. In the five years George played for St. Mike's he never experienced a losing game. A First Team High School All-Canadian in 1971, his graduating year, Rautins was recruited by dozens of Division 1 American universities, eventually accepting a scholarship at Niagara University. Playing for the Purple Eagles from 1971-75, he was recognized as one of the most prolific shooters in American college basketball. Indeed, "get the ball out to George" is remembered by Coach P as one of his most frequent instructions.

At the end of his college career, George was drafted into the NBA by the Buffalo Braves – now the Portland Trailblazers. However, deciding he did not want to play pro ball, Rautins went on to star for the Canadian national team, where he was a key contributor during the 1974 World Championships. The highlights of George's career are too many to mention in this space, but he has one that stands out above all others, "playing for Coach P".

In a similar vein, Rob Stewart, this year's third inductee, counts "rebounding for George" among the highlights of his time at St. Mike's. But lost in his modesty are the hallmarks of a fabulous amateur career – a career that almost never was. Stewart came to St. Michael's with the idea of playing hockey, until Coach P, confident Rob could be an outstanding basketball player, convinced him to "forget the hockey and come play in a nice, warm gym."



Along with George, Rob helped turn the Blue Raiders into one of the top high school teams in Canada. His outstanding skills attracted the attention of a number of American and Canadian schools, eventually resulting in a scholarship at Simon Fraser University – which was at that time a member of an American conference. Named among the 150 greatest Canadian basketball players of all time, Rob was recruited by the Canadian National Team after enjoying a successful university career. With the national team, he joined forces once again with former teammate George Rautins at the 1974 World Championships in Puerto Rico. Surely there must be some fantastic stories from that tournament, as these are the two gentlemen that, as Rob remembers it, "used to hang drop from the cafeteria into the locked gym to practice in the dark."

On January 10, 2012, it was obvious that their passion for basketball is shared by the St. Mike's community. The three legends were inducted into the St. Michael's Basketball Hall of Fame to the beat of the St. Mike's Drumline, in front of a packed house, surrounded by former teammates and coaches, and applauded by the current Blue Raiders squad. The touching and thoughtful ceremony was well-planned, executed, and timed, inspiring the Blue Raiders to a huge first quarter lead over Pope John Paul in their opening game of the tournament – a game they went on to win 90-50, much to the joy of the hall of famers in the audience.



# around st. mike's

## SMCS RETURN TO LEARN PROGRAMME

This year, the Learning Enrichment Centre piloted 'Return to Learn', an innovative programme to support students who must make a graduated return to school after the cognitive changes that they experience from a concussion. While 'Return to Play' is a familiar step by step procedure that follows concussion recovery towards a return to sport, there are no programmes, except St. Michael's, that address the classroom and academic needs for students post-concussion. The Learning Enrichment Centre coordinates communication about student progress and needs to teaching faculty, medical professionals, parents and administration. On April 27, St. Michael's hosted a symposium to highlight its unique comprehensive approach to concussion management and share strategies with medical, educational and government organizations. The programme has attracted a lot of media attention, including a feature on CBC's Connect with Mark Kelley and an article in *The Globe and Mail*.

## SPREAD THE NET

This past year the Student Government held several fundraisers to raise money for the 'Spread the Net Student Challenge', helping to combat childhood malaria in Africa. SMCS students raised \$26,329.81, surpassing their goal of \$20,000, through several fundraisers, including a walk-a-thon in September, buzz cut challenge in January and video game tournament in February. Each \$10 raised purchases a bed net which can shelter up to five children for five years.

## SENIOR BLUE RAIDERS BASKETBALL TEAM

The Senior Blue Raiders were ranked first in Canada for the first time since 1979. The team is led by [Duane Notice '13](#) and [Malcolm Duvivier '14](#), arguably the most potent guard tandem in the country. This year, the Blue Raiders defeated almost every powerhouse team in each region and took home five tournament championships, including the Ontario Catholic Classic. The team completed one of its most successful playoff runs in recent history capturing a CISAA championship and a bronze medal at OFSAA.

## RUMBA SQUAD

This year, St. Michael's College School was proud to introduce the Rumba Squad, a new world rhythms percussion programme. The Rumba Squad features diverse melodies using drums such as the congas, bongos, timbales, djembe and bombo and is the first of its kind in a Canadian high school. Students gain knowledge on the syncopation of complex rhythms and work as a team to develop an orchestrated sound of pure percussion. The squad is headed by modern languages teacher [Mark Pulla '99](#), who is the moderator and one of the clinicians. Mr. Joaquin Nunez Hidalgo, Latin Band Music Coordinator for Dirty Dancing and Beauty and the Beast (Mirvish Productions), is the principal clinician. The Rumba Squad has performed at the SMCS Christmas and Spring Concerts.

## BLUE GAELS LACROSSE PLAYERS COMMIT TO PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITIES

Over the 2011-12 school year, several St. Michael's Blue Gaels lacrosse players have committed to play at prestigious universities. [Andrew Mullen '13](#), widely considered to be one of the best high school defencemen in the country, accepted an NCAA scholarship to the University of Virginia. [Todd Stewart '12](#) committed to attend Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Todd will suit up as a long-stick midfielder for the Bears in 2012, competing in the very prestigious Ivy League. Midfielder [Justin DeMarchi '12](#) committed to play NCAA lacrosse at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, under the tutelage of renowned Denison Head Coach and U.S. National Team Assistant Coach, Mike Caravana. In July, [Joe French '12](#) will represent Canada at the World U-19 Championship in Turku, Finland before attending Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. in September. In addition, [Georgian Dimopoulos '12](#) and [Domenico Lisi '12](#) have committed to Queen's University, [Jonathan Rudyk '12](#) to the University of Toronto, [Christian Barker '12](#) to McGill University, [JD Brachman '12](#) to Hamilton College and [Jack Ranson '12](#) committed to Olivet College.

## CAREER DAY

At St. Michael's College School's 10th Annual Grade 11 Career Day, students had the opportunity to hear key note speaker [Nick Di Donato '76](#), President and C.E.O. of Liberty Entertainment Group, speak about his career path. Nick talked about his journey from a St. Michael's student to president of his own entertainment group and becoming an engineer along the way. Nick's message to the Grade 11s was that it's not your career that defines you, but choosing to be a good person. Afterwards, alumni speakers from a diverse range of industries spoke about their careers to smaller groups of students. The alumni speakers included [Robert Antenore '91](#), [Joseph Balsamo '92](#), [Tony Barozzino '83](#), [Adrian Capobianco '93](#), [Jonathan Cardella '93](#), [Gianni Creta '93](#), [Robert Grossi '92](#), [Paolo Korre '02](#), [Joe LoPresti '93](#), [Basil Marcello '91](#), [Adriano Memme '04](#) and [Rino Spano '93](#). A big thank you goes to all the speakers and [Luciano Volpe '93](#) who organized the Career Day.

# welcome, class of 2012

Alexander Alberelli	Philip Corvinelli	David Gerhardt	Michael Moloughney	Ryan Searle
Michael Amatangelo	Sean Costen	Anthony Giuliano	Nathan Moore	Thomas Sebastiano
Jack Armstrong	Daniel Crimi	Matias Gonzalez Del Valle	Mason Moriyama	Joshua Sekhar
James Astritis	Jonathan Cross	Andrew Greco	Misha Mulalu	Humbert Sin
Luke Bakaic	Christopher da Silva	Ross Greco	John Mullen	Stefan Sistilli-Sguazzin
Eric Balawejder	Hafiz Damji	Robert Grilli	Bennet Murray	Alexander Smart
Christian Barker	Julian D'Angelo	Matthew Guida	Dominic Naimool	Adrian Smith
Nicholas Barry	Anthony Davis	Thomas Haley	Duncan Nairne	Brendan Smith
Francesco Bartucci	Christopher Dawoud	Luigi Iantosca	Mario Nasturzio	Kaspar So
Alex Belardi	David De Fulviis	Joshua Jordan	Danny Nguyen	Daniel Sol
Pasquale Benigno	John De Luca	Mathew Kahansky	Duane Notice	Steven Stanwyck
Niklas Benseler	Robert De Santis	Christian Karayannides	Jack O'Hara	Todd Stewart
Christian Bianchi	Christian Del Medico	Brody Kerrigan	Mikolaj Opolski	Ryall Stroud
Paul Bodack	Justin DeMarchi	Andrew Kocur	Oresiri Oputu	Adam Strychaluk
Patrick Boivin	Dany Demyanenko	Conor Ledger	Garrett Palin	Adam Sturino
Peter Boivin	Daniel Derkach	Joseph Lee	Mitchell Passarelli	Nathaniel Tannis
Michael Borron	Christian Di Biagio	Phillip Lee	Mitchell Petruck	Michael Tatangelo
Jean-David Brachman	Daniel Di Giorgio	Yunsung Lee	Roberto Pianosi	Matthew Tatarsky
Luca Breda	Michele Di Leo	Alexander Liakakos	Christopher Platek	Luca Tonin
Aidan Bronca	Matthew Di Monte	Domenico Lisi	Stephen Pietrobon	Maxwell Townsend
Alexander Brothers	Gabriel Di Nota	Felipe Llano	Richard Pilacinski	Steven Tracogna
Timothy Burke	Alessandro Di Lucia	Robert Longo	Alexander Piszczek	Francesco Trentadue
Thomas Byckowski	Georgian Dimopoulos	Matthew Loparco	Franco Pizzimenti	Christopher Valela
Patrick Cameron	David DiSchiavi	Michael Loreto	Thomas Purdy	Nicholas Van Tol
Matthew Camuti	Alexander Doyle	Alessandro Manca	John Quittenton	Liam Walker
Esteban Cardenas	Julian D'Souza	David Mangiardi	Jack Ranson	Tyler Whealy
Colin Carmona-Murphy	Peter Casper III Dyloco	Zachary Marshall	Peter Rea	Ryan White
Michael Carnevale	Marc Ercolao	Andrew Mastracci Marques	William Richardson	Victor Williams
Landon Catenacci	Michael Ernest	Paul Mauceri	Marcos Rivela	Hanson Wong
Alexander Chiarlitti	Matthew Evans	Christian Mazzanti	Vincent Rocca	Niall Wronski
Julian Chilco	Liam Fitzpatrick	Matthew Mazzuca	Conor Ross	Johann Xavier
Albert Chlapowski	Michael Flannery	William McNee	Eric Roth	David Young
Kyung Jun Kevin Choi	Jonathon Fossella	Daniel McRae	Jonathan Rudyk	Mark Zanardo
Graham Chow	Joseph French	Mitchell Mehling	Conor Ryan	Robert Zanardo
Stefan Colangelo	Jonathan Gaglia	Mark Michael	Aaron Sabilano	Alexander Zelyk
Christopher Collins	Thomas Gariepy	Patrick Michalski	Alexander Sartori	Yan Qing Zhang
Rowan Comish	Adrian Gazzoli	Nikita Mikhailov	Marc Anthony Scavo	Patrick Zisser
Joseph Conflitti	Matthew Genga	David Miller	Jordan Schneider	Erio Zucchet



# where are they now

## 1960s

**Les Kozak '60** grew up in a poor Ukrainian family in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. He came to St. Michael's on the recommendation of the Toronto Maple Leafs scouting staff and played for the Majors from 1957-60. Les had a brief career with the Toronto Maple Leafs before sustaining a career-ending head injury in 1962 while playing for the Rochester Americans in the American Hockey League. Les went on to receive his B.A. from St. John Fisher and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Notre Dame. He spent almost 30 years at the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, conducting research into obesity. In 1998, Les received an endowed professorship at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center of Louisiana State University, where he continued to study energy expenditure and the regulation of body weight. In January 2011, Les moved to Olsztyn, Poland, where he joined the Polish Academy of Sciences. He has begun building a research group which will study the underlying problems in obesity. Les is highly respected worldwide in the field of molecular genetics and has lectured around the world. He says that research has a highly competitive side that satisfies his competitive spirit as hockey had done. His time at St. Michael's gave him the opportunity to play hockey and obtain an excellent education. As much as possible, Les returns home with his Polish born wife to spend time with his three children and three grandchildren who live in Maine and Colorado.



## 1970s

**Ernie** and **Garry Patterson '73** were band members under **JP Guerrierre '47** at SMCS and both enjoyed careers as professional musicians. Their horns are heard on the iconic 'Hockey Night in Canada' theme music. They now run a restaurant and gift shop in their own 'town' in Southern Ontario.

**Andy Kowalsky '76** is enjoying life as VP of Sales and Marketing with the International Home Marketing Group and would love to hear from some of his former compatriots from the Class of '76. He can be reached at akowasa077@rogers.com

## 1980s

**John W. Leis '88**, on behalf of his wife, Angela Casey (St. Joseph Morrow Park - Class of '90) is proud to announce the arrival of their third son, Spencer Casey Leis, who was born on lucky Friday the 13th, January 2012. Spencer was welcomed home by his two very excited big brothers, Christian (8) and Tobin (4). Mom and Spencer are both doing great. "It's now officially Hoikety Choik on 3 in our house," says John.



## 1990s

**Roman Tatarsky '90**, working as an election observer in Ukraine in 2004 and 2006, saw opportunity. Even though he had visited his parent's homeland several times in the past, the political events that took place in the immediate aftermath of the 2004 Ukrainian Presidential Election led him to explore the possibility of a career there. Amidst a feverish climate with cries of government corruption and election fraud, Tatarsky saw that "something fundamental had changed in the underlying fabric of the country. The opportunity to live, work and participate in the development of a democratic society was an opportunity I could not refuse."

Currently, Tatarsky is the Director of Advisory Services for Ernst & Young Ukraine. Working for one of the Big Four accounting firms in Ukraine – where he has had the opportunity to build an entirely new department from the

ground up – is not like working for them in Canada, according to Tatarsky. The big difference, he states, is that the business environment in Ukraine is much more fluid and in many ways more proactive than what he experienced in Canada.

"Independent Ukraine and its market economy are only 18 years old. Capitalism is new to this part of the world. Being young and not necessarily saddled with years of corporate memory, traditions and history, executives are quick to try something new, make more radical decisions and are more open to change," he explains.

There is a level of risk in any developing economy, but that appeals to Tatarsky, who left the comforts of an established life and career track in Toronto. "I'm glad I took the risk to move here. It's one of the best career decisions I have ever made. It has added unimaginable context and perspective to both my personal and professional life."



**Rob Tanzola '93** is working as a cardiac anesthesiologist at Kingston General Hospital and teaching medical students and residents at Queen's. He is happily married to Victoria Robinson, a Loretto Abbey alumnus, and is the proud father of two wonderful girls, Annie (7) and Alex (3).

## 2000s

**Kevin Klein '03**, one of the last members of the St. Michael's Majors to graduate from SMCS, has played full time in the NHL for the Nashville Predators since 2008. He was drafted by the Predators in the 2nd round, 37th overall, in the 2003 NHL Entry Draft. He scored his first goal for the team in 2007 against Nikolai Khabibulinn and the Chicago Blackhawks during only his fourth NHL game. Missing only 10 games combined in the last three seasons, Kevin registered his first multi-point outing against Edmonton on March 3, 2009. He set highs in games played (81), assists (10) and penalty minutes (27) in 2009-10. During that season, he was also one of two Predators (along with Shea Weber) to post at least 100 hits (101) and 100 blocked shots (147); Impressive stats considering he only played his rookie season in 2008-09, after appearing in 18 games over the three previous campaigns. By the end of with the 2010-11 season, Klein was a mainstay in the Predators playoff lineup, appearing in all six games against Chicago – making his playoff debut in Game 1 and collecting his first post-season point in Game 3.



Kevin starred for the Toronto St. Michael's Majors from 2000-04, although he was traded to Guelph for the end of the 03-04 season, where he helped the Storm to the Ontario Hockey League Championship and an appearance in the Memorial Cup. Klein also captured a silver medal with Team Canada at the 2004 World Junior Championship. He was named the OHL Western Conference's Best Defensive Defenceman in the 2004 OHL Coaches' poll, was named a Third-Team All-Star and played for the Western Conference at the 2004 OHL All-Star Classic.

Nicknamed 'Kleiner', Kevin lists his favorite hockey moments as winning a gold medal with Canada's U-18 team in 2001 at the Six Nations tournament in the Czech Republic and winning the 2004 Ontario Hockey League Championship with Guelph. Kevin and high school sweetheart Jodi, who he married in 2008, are the parents of Joseph Robert, born in 2009. The couple has another child due this summer. While Kevin and Jodi call Nashville home during the season, they return to Canada every year to spend summers in Collingwood.

**Jonathan Emmanuel '09** is currently finishing his third year at McMaster University. In the summer he will be working as a marketing assistant at the BizX International Exchange Program for the DeGroote School of Business. Jonathan will also be doing a health internship in Guatemala for three weeks this summer. Beginning September 2012, he will serve as Co-President of 'Free The Children' at McMaster University, which is currently raising money to build a clean water project in Sierra Leone.



## in memoriam

[Lawrence Tenute '39](#) passed away on Wednesday, March 27, 2012. His grandson, [David Tenute '16](#), is a student at SMCS.

[Fr. Tom McKillop '46](#) passed away in Toronto on February 15, 2012. He was in his 84th year and his 48th year in the priesthood. Fr. McKillop was interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Thornhill, following his February 21 funeral Mass.

Growing up in the west end of Toronto, he attended the University of St. Michael's College and then began teaching at St. John the Evangelist Elementary School in Toronto. After much discernment, he entered the Paulist Fathers order in New Jersey and went to study at St. Paul's University in Washington. But everything didn't go according to plan. He was asked to leave as the order felt he worked too hard and was too intense. He regrouped, entered St. Augustine's Seminary and was ordained at the age of 36.

Assigned to St. Mark's parish, it was at this point Fr. McKillop discovered his passion for youth ministry. After a year of working with teens and young adults, he became director of the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO). "I was on fire with enthusiasm, I had finally found my niche," he was quoted as saying in The Shepherds' Trust newsletter. After 18 years with the CYO, he went on to become pastor at Holy Name parish in Toronto and then pastor of St. John Chrystostom parish in Newmarket. In 2005, Fr. McKillop received the Order of Canada for his work in promoting responsibility and social engagement among Canada's youth.

[Robert Philip De Courcy '46](#) passed away peacefully at the age of 84 at Stevenson Memorial Hospital, Alliston, on Sunday, March 25, 2012. An accomplished goaltender, Robert played one game for the St. Michael's Majors in the 1945-46 season and one game for the New York Rangers in the 1947-48 season. Beloved husband of the late Jane (McIntyre), loving father of Tod (Donna), Paul, Joe (Vikki), John (Heather), Peter, David (Jayne), Phil (Eileen), and Martha (Peter) Atherton and dear brother of [Joe '49](#) (late Maureen), Cecile (late Maurice) Tourigny, Paul (Claudia), and the late Bill (Cecile), Bob will be sadly missed by his 17 grandchildren and his one great-grandchild.

[Edward Francis Harrison '46](#) passed away on Friday, February 10, 2012, in his 85th year. Born and raised in Mimico, Ed enjoyed a very successful hockey career at St. Michael's College School. He went through the historic 1940s hockey

### ROBEL SOLOMON '13



*The St. Michael's College School community was deeply saddened by the passing of Grade 11 student [Robel Solomon '13](#) on February 17, 2012, following a courageous battle with cancer. He was the beloved son of Mr. Solomon Kidane and Mrs. Rosa Teklu and the caring older brother of [Matthew '14](#).*

*Robel attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School before coming to SMCS on a scholarship in Grade 9. At St. Mike's, Robel played soccer and was the manager for the Sr. Basketball Team. "He was the one who would sweep the floor and get water bottles for the players," said basketball coach, [Jeff Zownir '88](#). He described Robel as "always willing to contribute in any way he could to the health and success of the programme, with a smile and a positive attitude."*

*Numerous SMCS students, including both the Jr. and Sr. Basketball Teams, attended the funeral held February 21 at St. Nicola Di Bari Church. Robel's kind and gentle nature will be missed at St. Michael's College School.*

programme, playing on the midget championship team of 1944, the Junior B championship team 1945, the 1946 Memorial Cup finalist team and the Junior 'A' Memorial championship team in 1947. Later that year, Ed and his cousin Ed Sanford both signed with the Boston Bruins, where he played for four years before being traded to the New York Rangers. Ed fondly recalled his days at St. Mike's and often commented on the education and friendships formed there. After his hockey career, Ed and his family moved to Brantford, where he was a long time employee of the Massey Ferguson company. He enjoyed his later years golfing and watching his grandchildren playing hockey.

[Henry William Llewellyn \(Hank/Chaiky\) Clarke '54](#) passed away on the morning of Monday, January 16, 2012, in the comfort of his home with loved ones by his side. Born in 1933, Henry was the dearly beloved son of the late Claire Amanda Clarke. He will be sadly missed by his beloved wife and companion Georgie. He cherished his role as a father to Lisa, Julie and Jason and delighted in being active in the lives of his grandchildren John, Mason, Brock and Aniya. They brought him immeasurable joy. He will also be greatly missed by his many dear friends, including [Ted Schmidt '57](#), who submitted the following tribute:

*"Henry Clarke was a pioneer. Not only was he the only person of colour at St. Mike's in 1951 and 1952, he wasn't even a Catholic! A great athlete, Hank went on to university and then gave tons back to the community by teaching in high needs high schools. By accident I ran into him five years ago and dragged him to our SMC 50s annual reunion at the Balmy Beach Club. In June 2008, Hank also appeared at 60 Years of SMC Basketball, hosted by Dan Prendergast. He loved reminiscing with [Barry Callaghan '55](#), [Florian Matsalla '52](#) and [Jae Egan '56](#). The gentle family man will be missed."*



[Ed Kosiba '55](#) passed away in January 2012. [Pat Young '55](#), [Leo McArthur '55](#) and [Stan MacLellan '55](#) travelled to Sault Saint Marie to attend the funeral on Friday January 27. Stan MacLellan was the deacon of the mass, and was warmly welcomed by the Rector of the Cathedral, Fr. Hamish Currie. The family appreciated the mass and prayers of the St. Mike's community.

[John Robert \(Bob\) Culliton '56](#) passed away peacefully at Brampton Civic Hospital with his family by his side on Saturday, February 26, 2011, at the age of 75, following a brief illness. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Theresa, his son and daughter-in-law, Sean and Araceli Culliton and his daughters, Karin Culliton and Lynne-Marie Culliton. Proud grandpa of Max, Sloane, Evan, Ian and Tiernan, Bob will be sadly missed by his sisters Martha van Amerongen and Mary Bennett, brother and sister-in-law Gerry and Maureen Laing and his many nieces and nephews, both in Canada and Scotland.

[William \(Bill\) Alfred Laxton '56](#) passed away on October 8, 2011. Born in 1938, the youngest child of Alfred David and Mary Theresa Laxton, Bill was lovingly raised by his brothers and sisters Ted, Dorothy, Ogda and Wilf, after the passing of his parents. Bill was the beloved husband of Theresa Bernice Laxton (nee: Michniewicz) for 49 years and loving father of William Jr., Richard, Theresa-Marie, Joseph, Dorothy, Frances, Matthew and David (deceased 2003), grandfather of 13 grandchildren, and great-grandfather of 2 boys. Bill taught Chemistry and General Science at St. Michael's College School and then went on to teach at Wexford Collegiate for 25 years. In retirement Bill lovingly cared for his wife Theresa at their Scarborough home with help from his sister Dorothy and his daughters. Bill also served his church as a Knight of Columbus and an usher and will be missed by his family, friends, students and community.

[Jay Douglas Hook '56](#) passed away peacefully in his 76th year at Hillsdale Estates with his family by his side on Wednesday, November 23, 2011. Jay was the beloved husband of Shirley (nee Spalla), wonderful father of Kerry and wife Corinne, Ken and his wife Shelley, and Kelly and her husband Bryan Hartlen, and awesome grandpa of Nicole, Michelle, James, Heather, Steven, Jacklyn, Matthew and Kristen. A dear brother of Betty Lyons and the late Jim Hook and the best friend of brother-in-law Joe and his wife Pat, Jay will be lovingly remembered by his many nieces, nephews, close friends and all those in the 'Church Group'.



Francis Burns '57 passed away on November 26, 2011. After graduating from St. Mike's, Frank went on to teach at De La Salle College Oaklands before transferring to Saint Basil the Great College School. At the time of his passing, Frank was an occasional teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. Ted Schmidt '57 remembers "the unforgettable Frank Burns" as indelible to their graduating class:

*"It was the Conformity Decade but not for our recently deceased classmate Francis Patrick Burns. We all stood for God Save the Queen, our national anthem. But not Frank. He resolutely sat down and would for the rest of his life when 'the Queen' was played. Frankie, to say the least, was 'different'. His antics in Fr. Dave Bauer's, C.S.B. '45 class (and others) were legendary. He would just pop up in mid-sentence and launch into a Hank Williams' song, cheered on of course by all of us. Frankie worked on Bay Street before entering teaching in his late 30s. He had a fierce loyalty to the Catholic Church and indeed to his SMC friends. True to form, two years ago he informed us that after our 50th reunion he would no longer attend our annual get-togethers. He wanted to remember us as he did 'the Faith of our Fathers' like 'we were'. And so he disappeared. Six of us held a lunch in his honour in early December 2011. Gone but certainly not forgotten."*

John Walsh '58 passed away on March 20, 2007, and is survived by his wife Thelda, four daughters and three sons. His funeral mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Sorrows Church by Rev. Nino Cavoto, on March 23, 2007. John, who served as the 12th president of the St. Michael's Alumni Association, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 1999. He was cared for by his wife, Thelda, at home until 2004 when he was admitted to a nursing home in Etobicoke. From the onset of his illness and during his stay in the nursing home, John was attended to by several of his St. Michael's friends, including: Bill Borron '55, Frank Kielty '55, Greg Hornberger '57, Frank Morneau '59, Frank Thickett '57 and Tom Thomas '58.

After graduating from St. Michael's, John attended the University of Western Ontario and Osgoode Hall, before starting a successful career in the law profession in Toronto. John and his close friends, many of them St. Michael's graduates, including Greg Hornberger, John McElroy '49, Frank Morneau, and Tom Thomas, formed a holding company to make investments and to assist friends in establishing their own businesses.

Many good times were celebrated by John with his family and close friends at Thunder Bay Beach. While John devoted much time to his family, he continued after his graduation to play golf and hockey. John has been missed by all those lucky enough to be his friends over the years.



Wolf Reidl and Don Shanahan... a special bond of friendship

Donald Patrick (Don) Shanahan '63 passed away peacefully at his home in Brighton on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, aged 67 years. Loving husband of Kathryn (Bird), beloved father of Stephen, Meghan (Matt), Ian and Molly-Kate and dear grandfather of Sawyer, Don is survived by brothers Sean and Chris and predeceased by brother, Kevin. A loving father and husband and respected teacher and naturalist, Don will be sadly missed by family, friends and colleagues – including former SMCS teacher Wolf Reidl, who offers this remembrance:

*"I had spoken to Don shortly before Christmas, heard his cancer had returned, and knew along with him that his days were numbered. As always he was brave, but strength had left his voice, and the friend I had shared so much life with was quickly sliding away. Where had the time gone since we'd roomed together in the Sixties, teaching in the science dungeons of St. Mike's, and playing at adventure wherever we could find it? Don was a mentor in those early years, not just to me, but to a host of young people and friends. He had a gift for teaching and a special brand of humour that made for many eager and*



Don Shanahan... at his bench...

*loyal students, as many in as out of the classroom. How many of us first learned to tie a fly at his bench, cast a long line, sneak on a fishing hole, or just quietly sit, watch and listen, to learn from what was around us? Don's voyage was one of change and seeming contradictions: wingshooter to birdwatcher; hunter to photographer; bruising athlete to sensitive artist; party animal to moderate family man. However, the same passion that drove the wild man on skates and fuelled many a school prank, remained always present, inspiring a love for learning, understanding and achievement that he never lost. I was lucky to be a part of his life."*

George J. Baraniecki '63 passed away on September 21, 2008, at the Bristol Hospital, aged 64. George was beloved husband of Frances (Orsini), father of Kimberly, stepfather of Philip Batick and brother of Marta Zanelli. He was born April 8, 1944 in Chirnside, Scotland, son of the late Joseph A. and Emilia (Zielinski) Baraniecki. He immigrated to Canada and was raised in Weston, Ontario. After graduating from St. Michael's College School, George attended Southern Connecticut State College, where he received his B.Sc. in education. He later received his Masters of Education from the University of Hartford.

Prior to his retirement, George was a math teacher at the Harry S. Fisher Middle School in Terryville, Connecticut for 35 years, serving as Team Leader, Student Council Advisor and Chairman of the Math Department. George also was a mentor at both Terryville High School and Harry S. Fisher Middle School. During his own school years, George played hockey for St. Michael's College School and football at Southern Connecticut State College.

George was recognized among America's most respected teachers and was placed in the Who's Who Among American Teachers. In 1996, he was selected as Plymouth's Teacher of the Year and was a candidate for the Connecticut Teacher of the Year. George was also a recipient of the Secretary of State's Public Service Award. He had a passion for fishing, hockey and the New York Rangers, and a contagious humour that always made people laugh.

Vic Tamulaitis '70 passed away at Humber River Regional Hospital, Church Site, after a brief illness on Monday, October 10, 2011. Beloved husband of Nicole and fun loving and adoring dad of Liana (Pupa), he will be lovingly remembered by his grieving mother Marija, sister Vida (Arunas Dailyde) and her children, Laura and Paul.

Michael Loconte '82 passed away in his 49th year on Friday, April 6, 2012, as a result of a massive heart attack. Mike, gently and with great dignity, took his last breath while his beloved Carolyn held his hand. Son of the late Frank Loconte, left to mourn his passing are his devoted wife Carolyn Teal and adored sons Andrew and Cody, for whom he held in the highest regard. Mike also leaves behind his loving mother Rosa, sister Sara and brother-in-law Tony Paglialunga, niece Melissa and nephew Jonathan and his family at Cercan Tile, where he worked for more than 23 years. He also leaves his furry forever friends Ella and Theo, along with a small army of family and friends who knew him for his exceptional kindness, his loyalty and his big-hearted generosity of spirit. Mike was everyone's rock, the go-to person you called when you needed a helping hand or a shoulder to lean on. He had the best laugh and his love of hockey was legendary. A member of the Board of Directors of the North York Hockey League (NYHL), he was also a coach with Weston Minor Hockey. No morning was too cold or too early for Mike when he headed out to the arena. To have known Mike was a privilege, to have loved Mike was a gift.

Michele (Michael) Prencipe '90 passed away on January 1, 2012. He is fondly remembered as a jovial and happy man who imparted a very positive energy to all who met him. Michael was known for his admiration for his family and thought of his children as his greatest achievements. He always knew the right thing to say and was without fail, there for anybody who needed his help. A considerate and compassionate individual, Michele will be missed for his kind nature, great smile, and wonderful sense of humour by his family, friends, and colleagues in the mortgage industry.

FRIENDS OF ST. MICHAEL'S

**Rev. Harold Bernard Gardner, C.S.B.** passed away peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, April 4, 2012, at St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto. Fr. Gardner served as Superior of the Basilian Community at SMC from 1981-87 and was a director of the St. Michael's College Board of Governors from March 1998 to November 2001.

Fr. Gardner was born in Fairport, New York on September 25, 1929, the ninth of eleven children of William Joseph Gardner and Mildred Amelia Hembrook. He is predeceased by his parents, brothers Earl and Gerald and sisters Lucille, Mary, Dorothy, Mabel, Hazel and Barbara. Fr. Gardner is survived by his brother (Robert), sister (Margaret Budgeon), cousin (Cheryl Lewis), and numerous nieces and nephews.

Many sought Fr. Gardner's counsel and direction because he was gifted with an open, friendly disposition. His friends, colleagues and confreres admired his wisdom and sense of work ethic. In 1997, he was asked to become Superior of Anglin House, an assisted living home for the Basilian Fathers in Toronto. He said of this appointment: "What a change of pace, but how extremely rewarding to witness the lives lived by Basilians at the end of their active careers!" He served in this role for two years and was much admired for his kindness and attentiveness to the needs of his confreres. He retired in the year 2000 and continued to live in Orsini House, Toronto, always ready to serve his confreres with consideration and thoughtfulness.

**Frank Greco** passed away on March 16, 2011. Husband of Pina, proud father of [Frank '88](#), Carla, and Laura and loving Nonno to his many grandchildren, Frank was a strong supporter of St. Michael's. He lived his life with dignity, humility and devotion to the teachings of Christ.

**Garry Zentil** passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, in his home, at the age of 55. Garry was the beloved husband of Michele Zentil and loving father to [Joseph '06](#), [Armand '07](#), and Calla. Garry was an organizer of 'Jim and Garry's Invitational Golf Tournament' and sat on many committees, including the SMCS 150th Anniversary Committee. He was a valued supporter of St. Michael's with donations including the 'Jim DeGasperis, Garry Zentil and Eagles Nest Terrace' in front of the Centre for the Arts.

Garry was the son of Joe and Wanda Zentil, and son-in-law to Margret Johnson of San Diego, California. He was a brother to Dianna and Paul (Jutta Zentil) and will be sadly missed by his nieces and nephew: Olivia, Erica, Maxine, Estelle, and Jens. Garry's enthusiasm for life will never be forgotten by his family and the many friends whose lives he touched.

Garry, who was involved with Zentil Property Management, Eagles Nest Golf Course, and Mayfair Clubs, was devoted to his work and took pride in his accomplishments. Garry was larger than life and had an adventurous spirit. He loved telling jokes; there was never a dull moment with him. His positivity and optimism showed in everything he did. He believed in giving back and was a generous donor to various charities in Toronto. Garry was a wonderful role model for his children and forever he will remain in their hearts.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Renato Rossetti, father of Michael Rossetti, Principal of Father Henry Carr Catholic Secondary School, and grandfather to [Daniel '03](#), [Matthew '06](#), [Christopher '08](#), and [David '11](#); George Hurley, father of [Spencer '06](#), [Carson '08](#), and [George Jr. '10](#), and uncle to [Michael '03](#); Sandra Taylor-Savaglio, wife of [John Savaglio '80](#); William Wallace Thomson, grandfather of [Tanner Thomson '14](#); Peter Alexis, grandfather of [Alexis Riccardi '13](#); Carl Duff, brother of [Les '54](#) and [Dick '55](#); Maria Grazia Tari, grandmother of [Andrew Coronas '08](#); Maryann Allen, mother of [Reg McLean '72](#) and [Michael Allen '83](#); Rita Marie Lee, grandmother of [Joseph Hollis '13](#); Marino Grilli, father of [Clorindo '81](#); Rev. Peter K. Mosteller, C.S.B., brother-in-law of [Robert Baigent '33](#); John Neilson Mooney, grandfather of [John O'Neill '16](#) and father-in-law of [John P. O'Neill '86](#); Warren May, father of Fr. Bill May, C.S.B.; Viola Marie Piccininni, mother of [John Piccininni '77](#); Mary Patricia "Patty" Ryan, grandmother of [Conor '12](#) and [Joseph Ross '15](#); Horacio Goncalves, father of [Michael '00](#) and [Matthew '08](#); Michael Jurocko, grandfather of [Alex Taylor '15](#); Mary Adamik, grandmother of [Todd Stewart '12](#);

i remember fr. david bauer, c.s.b. '45

*Tom O'Brien '57*

I attended a meeting in the school, April of 1997, which was called to explain the plans for the return of the Majors. Beforehand I took a diversion, visiting 'The GRAIL', or south inside wall of the arena, which has always held my attention. While entering I met one of the Tunney brothers, who was closing up early, and I asked to view the pictures. He turned on a light that lit up only a few of my former colleagues ... but the one that stood out was [Fr. David Bauer's, C.S.B. '45](#) 'portrait' in his Majors jacket taken in 1961, the year they won the Memorial Cup for the fourth time.

To me, it is NOT just another black and white picture. (And if it was done in colour it would do a disservice.) It is vivid ... graphic ... realistic. While viewing and studying Fr. Bauer's strong and chiseled features I could hear his gravelly voice and to this day I remember one meeting with him that still echoes within me loud and clear. He walked up behind me in the school cafeteria and by using his iron grip thumb and forefinger he paralyzed my right arm. That was in April of 1957, the year I graduated.

"Tommy," he said to me while his eyes drilled mine, "I could have thrown you out of the school last week because you were seen smoking on the property." He paused. My now clammy squeezing collar grew tight around my neck. He added, "you are finally putting together some good marks this year and you might make it into college. Don't gamble all that away." He did not wait for a reply... nor did I.

Later that month, Fr. Bauer took over a grade thirteen Religious Knowledge class because our regular teacher was absent with influenza. I am sure I will never forget it. "Gentlemen," he said while looking squarely at me because I had not really accepted his messages in previous encounters, "you were given certain gifts by Almighty God and He expects you to use them." The room was silent.

"Those of you with a super intelligence are expected to work hard at your studies and those with an average ability can be successful in academic life by using your time to study hard, which God has intended," he continued. "God in his love for you has given you life and various abilities which allow you to lead a full and rich life. You are expected to return God's love by using those gifts...to the fullest."

He paused before continuing. "Those of you who are non-academic and not destined for high paying jobs and positions of influence, are also expected to honour and love God in return. If you are in a service job, then you are expected to provide the best service possible whether it be driving a bus, pumping gasoline, or stocking shelves in a supermarket."

He looked at the clock on the wall and asked for questions. There followed inquiries about fights in hockey games and dirty players who injure others. He answered all, reminding us that accidents can and do happen and that games must be controlled by officials. He made clear that hockey is a contact sport and is not in itself guilty.

Nonetheless, his words stuck with me and later I repeated his lesson more than once in various meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. In short, my 'sharing' with others often sounds like this: "Those with an addiction to alcohol serve our Higher Power best by abstaining and helping others to overcome our mutual disease!"

Thank You, Father Bauer!





# turkey roll & reunion – the tradition lives on

On Friday, November 25, 2011, hundreds of alumni streamed to St. Mike’s to celebrate the annual Turkey Roll - the Alumni Association’s longest serving and most successful event. The evening once again provided a perfect setting for many friendships with former classmates and teachers to be rekindled. Fr. Redican, C.S.B. conducted mass before the event. The classes of 1962 (50 years), 1987 (25 years), and 2002 (10 years) were honoured at the event, posed for reunion photos and were presented with class pins.

### CLASS OF 1962 – 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**John Hermann '62** - On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of our graduation, my good friend **Barry Hayward '62** and I decided to attend our first Turkey Roll in many years. Meeting with fellow grads **Bill Patterson '62**, **Tom Polonic '62**, **Skip Stanowski '62**, **Joe Pastor '62** and others provided a great opportunity to share fond memories of the school and get updates on former classmates. It was good to hear that so many have enjoyed successful and rewarding careers. We don't know of any who are currently in jail. A tour of the school not only brought back memories but an opportunity to see the many changes that have occurred. The new theatre is just amazing. The weight training room and the enlarged gym also impressed. The new lockers in a much better configuration looked great. The group agreed to meet again on our 75th.



### CLASS OF 1987 – 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**Emile John '87** - With close to thirty grads from the Class of '87 in attendance, the evening was a resounding success. It provided ample opportunity to catch up with old friends and acquaintances, relive old tall tales and fabricate new ones. Many laughs and sentiments were shared throughout the evening. As the grads posed for a group picture the spontaneous cheers of Hoikety Choik and Bubba Lou erupted from a jubilant and energized group. The grads were honoured with a commemorative pin which featured their anniversary year and the school crest. While there were many grads amongst the Class of '87 who had not been back to St. Mike’s since they graduated, they could not pass up this momentous opportunity and were certainly glad they came.

### CLASS OF 2002 – 10TH ANNIVERSARY

**Adrian Spagnolo '02** - It is hard to believe that 10 years have passed so quickly and amidst the ever so popular Movember crowd, the representatives of the Class of 2002 were just as rowdy and passionate as if they had never left the yellow brick walls of SMCS. With a showing of nearly 50 strong, the truest of St. Michael's very own were an enthusiastic bunch chanting Bubba Lous and Hoikety Choiks by the baker's dozen. Amongst many familiar faces that spawned a series of hi-fives, the members of the class were proud to be celebrating their own positive achievements with one another in the building that helped pave the way for their futures.



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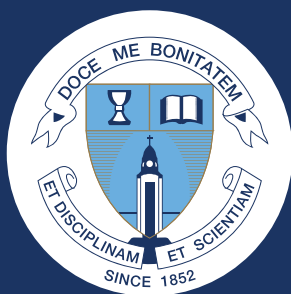
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